

ARKANSAS

MILK PRODUCTION REPORT



**ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

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**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS)
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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This report contains the results from the quarterly Milk Production Survey conducted during the first part of January 2004. A sample of Arkansas milk producers was contacted and the data as of January 1 (for the October 1 through December 31 period) were obtained for the latest milk cow and milk production estimates. The annual data were compiled from the Milk Production Survey in January, April, July and October during the year. The data are also posted on our home page at the Internet address above, and more detailed national statistics at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire and telephone interview for the survey.

FOURTH QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 8 PERCENT

ARKANSAS milk production during October-December 2003 quarter, was 80 million pounds, down 8 percent from the same period in 2002, but 1 percent above the July-September 2003 quarter.

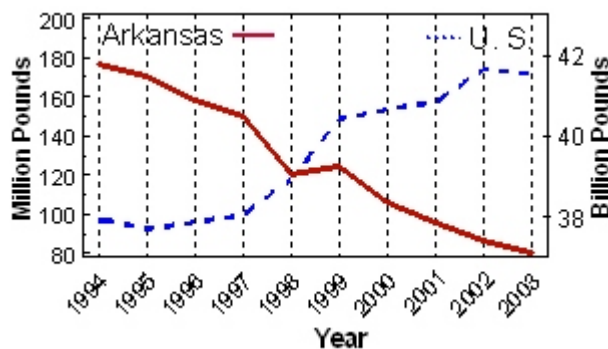
The average number of milk cows during the quarter was 28,000 head, 3,000 head less than the same period last year, but remained the same as the previous quarter.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION BY QUARTER, ARKANSAS AND U. S., 2002-2003

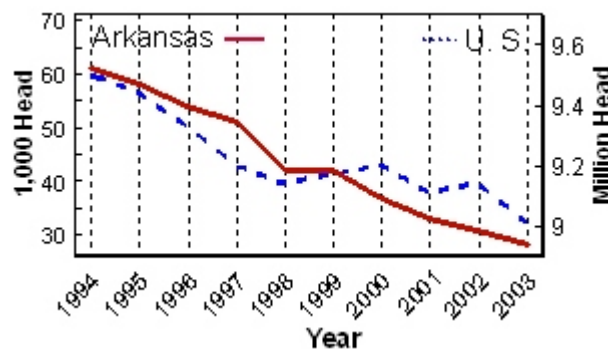
Item/Period	Unit	ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES		
		2002	2003	Change from 2002	2002	2003	Change from 2002
		<i>Percent</i>			<i>Percent</i>		
MILK COWS: 1/							
October - December	Thousands	31	28	-10	9,142	9,011	-1
July - September	Thousands	32	28	-12	9,154	9,073	-1
April - June	Thousands	33	29	-12	9,148	9,109	0
January - March	Thousands	33	30	-9	9,113	9,144	0
Annual Average Number	Thousands	32	29	-9	9,139	9,084	-1
		<i>Percent</i>			<i>Percent</i>		
MILK PRODUCTION: 2/							
October - December	Million Lbs.	87	80	-8	41,643	41,532	0
July - September	Million Lbs.	88	79	-10	41,846	41,746	0
April - June	Million Lbs.	111	97	-13	44,089	43,965	0
January - March	Million Lbs.	107	96	-10	42,485	43,069	+ 1
Annual Total Production	Million Lbs.	393	352	-10	170,063	170,312	0
Milk Production per Cow	Lbs.	12,281	12,138	-1	18,608	18,749	+ 1

1/ Average number for the period includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk nursed by calves.

**Milk Production, October-December Quarter
Arkansas and U.S., 1994-2003**



**Milk Cows, October-December Quarter
Arkansas and U.S., 1994-2003**

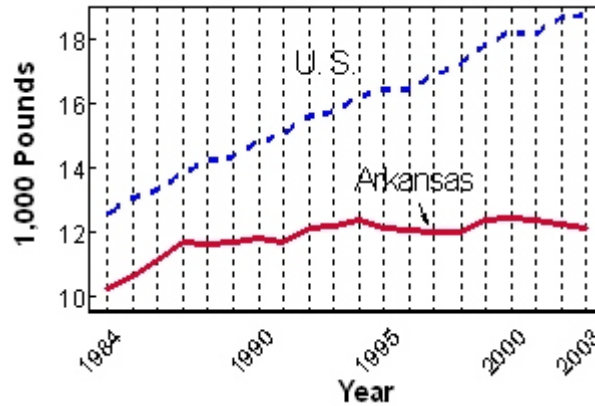


2003 ANNUAL RATE OF PRODUCTION PER COW DOWN 1 PERCENT

The annual milk production in Arkansas during 2003 was 352 million pounds, down 10 percent from 2002. Production per cow averaged 12,138 pounds for 2003, 143 pounds, or 1 percent below 2002.

The average number of milk cows on farms during 2003 was 29,000 head, down 9 percent from the 32,000 head in 2002. The number of milk cows has declined 52 percent from 1994.

**Annual Average Milk Production per Cow
Arkansas and U.S., 1984-2003**



**Annual Milk Production and Milk Cows
Arkansas, 1984-2003**

